

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02
/075 W

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O P 221517Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5345
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USNMR SHAPE BEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 0497

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY
SUBJECT: CYPRIOT FACTIONS TAKE POSITIONS FOR CLIFFORD ARRIVAL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE PRINCIPAL ACTORS IN CYPRIOT POLITICAL LIFE
USED THE WEEKEND FEB. 19-21 TO POSITION THEMSELVES FOR THE
CLIFFORD VISIT. ON THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE, MOST MAJOR FACTIONS
MADE STATEMENTS ABOUT THE VISIT ITSELF OR ABOUT THE INTER-
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COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS -- AND THUS INDIRECTLY ABOUT THE
VISIT. PRESIDENT MAKARIOS WELCOMED MISSION AND
EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BASE
POLICY ON "PRINCIPLES", NOT ON "EXPEDIENCIES."
DENKTASH BACKED OFF FROM EARLIER CRITICAL STATEMENTS
BUT TURK CYPRIOT NEWSPAPERS CONTINUED TO BE SUSPICIOUS
ABOUT U.S. MOTIVES. END SUMMARY.

2. MARKARIOS. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH ATHENS I KATHIMERINI, ARCHBISHOP SAID ANY INITIATIVE FROM U.S. (OR EC) IS WELCOMED PROVIDED IT DOES NOT REPLACE UN. HE BELIEVES "U.S. COULD CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TOWARD A SOLUTION" AND IMPLIED THIS IS TRUE BECAUSE "CARTER BASES THE SOLUTION ON PRINCIPLES...NOT ON OTHER EXPEDIENCIES." HE ALSO SAID THAT TURKISH DCA "MUST NOT BE RATIFIED UNLESS REAL AND BASIC PROGRESS IS ACHIEVED ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE." (COMMENT: MAKARIOS CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS EXPECT MORE SUPPORT FROM THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION THAN ITS PREDECESSOR. SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY PHILELEFTHEROS OBSERVED " THE CLIFFORD MISSION (IS) AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DEMONSTRATING THE DIFFERENCE IN THE AMERICAN STAND NOW TO THAT OF THE FORD-KISSINGER PAIR." MAKARIOS' OTHER THEME IS THAT U.S. CAN BEST HELP BY PUTTING PRESSURE ON TURKEY, NOT BY OFFERING NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS. END COMMENT)

3. DENKTASH. IN A FEB 19 PRESS CONFERENCE, DENKTASH SAID CLIFFORD MISSION "WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AN INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CYPRUS BECAUSE MR. CLIFFORD'S VISIT IS DESCRIBED AS A 'SEEING AND LEARNING' VISIT." (COMMENT: THIS IS DENKTASH RETREATING FROM EARLIER STATEMENT THAT CLIFFORD VISIT IS "UNTIMELY." HE EXPLAINS HIS CURRENT POSITION BY POINTING OUT THAT IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT MR. CLIFFORD IS NOT COMING TO CYPRUS WITH A PLAN FOR SOLUTION "IN HIS POCKET." END COMMENT)
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4. CLERIDES. IN FEB. 22 DEMOKRATIKO VIMA INTERVIEW, CLERIDES NOTES WITH PLEASURE THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS GIVING PRIORITY TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. HE ASCRIBES THIS TO "DEMANDS" OF GREEK-AMERICAN VOTERS IN U.S. AND TO ADMINISTRATION NEED FOR CYPRUS SOLUTION TO STRENGTHEN NATO AND REGULARIZE DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY. TONE OF INTERVIEW IS CONSISTENTLY POSITIVE.

5. PAPADOPOULOS. GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPOULOS ECHOED MAKARIOS' VIEWS IN FEB. 18 STATEMENT THAT "ANY INITIATIVE...IS WELCOME AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR THE ROLE OR DECISIONS OF THE UN."

6. COMMUNIST PARTY. IN AN INDIRECT SWIPE AT CLIFFORD MISSION, COMMUNIST AKEL PARTY POLTIBURO ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ON FEB. 17 EXPRESSING CAUTIOUS APPROVAL OF RESULTS OF MAKARIOS-DENKTASH MEETINGS AND UNSYG EFFORTS

WHILE CRITICIZING ANY OTHER INITIATIVES. IN THINLY-VIELED ALLUSION TO CLIFFORD MISSION, RESOLUTION WARNS THAT "THE IMPERIALIST ENEMIES OF CYPRUS WILL EVEN SEEK, STARTING WITH 'INNOCENT' EXPLORATIONS, TO INTERVENE...TO SERVE THEIR OWN INTERESTS."

COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER HARAVGHI PULLS PUNCHES EVEN LESS AND SAYS "BITTER EXPERIENCE" WITH AMERICAN POLICY ON CYPRUS DOES NOT ALLOW GREAT OPTIMISM ABOUT OUTCOME OF CLIFFORD VISIT.

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O P 221517Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5346
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 0497

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7. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS. GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PAPERS, ALWAYS TOGETHER ON NATIONAL POLICY, RELUCTANTLY WELCOMED CLIFFORD MISSION AS OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW U.S.

THE "REALITIES" OF CYPRUS BUT ALSO REFLECTED TURK CYPRIOT
SUSPICION AND CONCERN. SAMPLES: PRO-DENKTASH
ZAMAN NOTED THAT TURK CYPRIOTS ARE FOLLOWING (CLIFFORD'S)
CONTACTS "WITH A FEELING OF UNEASINESS AND MISTRUST."
OPPOSITION HALKIN SESI SAYS "IT SEEMS THAT...CLIFFORD WILL
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ACT AS AN EXAMPLE OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND
PRESSURE...WHICH WILL PROVOKE THE GREEK SIDE TO BECOME
MORE INTRANSIGENT."

8. COMMENT: ALL GREEK CYPRIOT FACTIONS EXCEPT COMMUNISTS
AND LYSSARIDES "SOCIALISTS" WELCOME CLIFFORD VISIT.
THEY BELIEVE VISIT WILL RESULT IN DEMONSTRABLE USG
PRESSURE ON TURKEY AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO BE FORTH-
COMING IN INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS. THEY ARE TRYING
TO ASSURE THIS BY EMPHASIZING "OBLIGATION" OF CARTER
ADMINISTRATION TO FORMULATE POLICY SUPPORTIVE OF GREEK
CYPRIOT POSITION. TURK CYPRIOTS, HAVING MADE ESSENTIALLY
SAME ANALYSIS OF CLIFFORD MISSION, FEAR THAT RESULTING
U.S. POLICY MAY FORCE TURKEY TO MAKE CONCESSIONS WHICH
WILL WEAKEN THEIR LONG-TERM ABILITY TO FUNCTION AS A
VIABLE COMMUNITY.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: PFOR, CY, US, (CLIFFORD, CLARK M)
To: ANKARA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/60ee60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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